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WORLD CONFERENCE AGAINST RACISM,
RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, XENOPHOBIA
AND RELATED INTOLERANCE

Preparatory Committee
Third session
Geneva, 30 July-10 August 2001
Item 6 of the provisional agenda

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE WORLD CONFERENCE:
PRACTICAL ISSUES**

Information note on arrangements for the World Conference

Note by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the Preparatory Committee the information note on administrative and logistical arrangements for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance to be held at the International Convention Centre, Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 7 September 2001. Information can also be obtained on the OHCHR Web site at www.unhchr.ch and the Web site of the host Government at www.racism.gov.za. A revised information note will be made available shortly before the Conference.

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The General Assembly, in its resolution 52/111, decided to convene a World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, which would take place no later than the year 2001. Noting with grave concern that despite the efforts of the international community, the principal objectives of the two previous Decades for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination had not been attained, the General Assembly decided that the World Conference would be action-oriented and focus on practical measures to eradicate racism, including measures of prevention, education and protection and the provision of effective remedies, taking into full consideration the existing human rights instruments.

2. The main objectives of the World Conference will be:

(a) To review progress made in the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, in particular since the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and to reappraise the obstacles to further progress in the field and ways to overcome them;

(b) To consider ways and means to better ensure the application of existing standards and the implementation of the existing instruments to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

(c) To increase the level of awareness about the scourges of racism and racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

(d) To formulate concrete recommendations on ways to increase the effectiveness of the activities and mechanisms of the United Nations through programmes aimed at combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

(e) To review the political, historical, economic, social, cultural and other factors leading to racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

(f) To formulate concrete recommendations to further action-oriented national, regional and international measures to combat all forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

(g) To draw up concrete recommendations for ensuring that the United Nations has the financial and other necessary resources for its actions to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.

3. In its resolution 52/111, the General Assembly also decided that the Commission on Human Rights would act as the preparatory committee for the World Conference and that its deliberations should be open-ended, allowing for the full participation of all States Members of the United Nations, members of the specialized agencies and observers, in accordance with

established practice. In its resolution 53/132, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to designate the High Commissioner for Human Rights as Secretary-General for the World Conference who, in that capacity, would assume the main responsibility for the preparations for the Conference.

4. In resolution 1999/78, the Commission on Human Rights called upon the High Commissioner to help States and regional organizations to convene national and regional meetings or to undertake other initiatives, including at the expert level, to prepare for the World Conference. In resolution 2000/14, the Commission recommended that the World Conference should adopt a declaration and programme of action and called upon the regional preparatory meetings to submit to the Preparatory Committee reports on their deliberations.

5. To this end, the following regional meetings were held:

(a) Council of Europe, European Conference against Racism, Strasbourg, France, 11-13 October 2000;

(b) Regional Conference of the Americas, Santiago, 5-7 December 2000;

(c) African Regional Meeting, Dakar, 22-24 January 2001;

(d) Asian Regional Meeting, Tehran, 19-21 February 2001.

6. In its resolution 54/154, the General Assembly welcomed the offer by the Government of South Africa to host the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance. In the same resolution, it decided that the World Conference and the sessions of the Preparatory Committee should be open to:

(a) All States Members of the United Nations and States members of the specialized agencies;

(b) Representatives of all regional organizations and regional commissions involved in the preparation of regional meetings, as well as associate members of the regional commissions;

(c) Representatives of organizations that have received a standing invitation from the General Assembly to participate in the capacity of observers;

(d) Representatives of specialized agencies, secretariats of the regional commissions and the United Nations bodies and programmes;

(e) Representatives of all United Nations mechanisms in the field of human rights;

(f) Other interested governmental organizations, represented by observers;

(g) Interested non-governmental organizations, represented by observers in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31 of 25 July 1996.

7. In its resolution 55/84, the Assembly requested Governments, the specialized agencies, other international organizations, concerned United Nations bodies, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the human rights of migrants and other human rights mechanisms to participate actively in the preparatory process with a view to ensuring the success of the World Conference and to coordinate their activities in this regard with the assistance of the High Commissioner.

II. INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

A. Dates and venue

8. The World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, composed of a plenary, a main committee and a drafting committee, will take place in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 7 September 2001. All three committees will convene at the International Conference Centre (ICC). The NGO Forum due to take place prior to the Conference from 28 August to 1 September 2001, will be held in the Kingsmead Cricket Stadium.

B. Arrival and transport information

1. Arrival

9. Upon arrival at Durban International Airport, United Nations/Host Government protocol officers will meet all delegations. Liaison Officers will be assigned to each delegation and be present at the airport when delegates arrive. Representatives of United Nations Protocol and Liaison will greet heads of State and Government, Vice-Presidents and Crown Princes/Princesses, on behalf of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the President of South Africa, upon their arrival. Permanent and observer missions to the United Nations and the Host Government should submit detailed information regarding the arrival of the above-mentioned persons to South Africa at least 24 hours in advance.

2. Transport

10. The Host Government will provide the head of delegation with a vehicle for his/her exclusive use. There will be collective transport for delegates to and from the airports, ICC, hotels and social events. Additional transport may be hired by delegations at their own expense. Rental vehicles are available in Durban through well-known companies. Delegations requiring additional chauffeur-driven vehicles can arrange this through car hire companies. Note that hired cars will not be allowed within the security perimeter of the ICC. No parking space is available at the ICC. However, there will be designated parking space for heads of delegation.

C. Accommodation

1. General

11. Accommodation is limited for participants in Durban. In order to facilitate bookings for accommodation, a travel coordinator has been appointed to assist the Host Government. The details are as follows:

Ms. Nicky Gild
Turners Conference and Conventions
Tel: + 27 31 332 1451
Fax: + 27 31 368 5100
E-mail: turner20@galileosa.co.ca

D. Accreditation, registration and access to venues

1. Accreditation

12. The World Conference is open to all States, representatives of all regional organizations and regional commissions involved in the preparation of regional meetings as well as associate members of the regional commissions, representatives of organizations that have received a standing invitation from the General Assembly to participate in the capacity of observers, representatives of the specialized agencies, the secretariats of the regional commissions and all United Nations bodies and programmes, representatives of all United Nations mechanisms in the field of human rights, national human rights institutions which shall be represented by observers, and non-governmental organizations which shall be represented by observers.

2. Registration

13. All participants must register for the Conference. Delegations are kindly requested to submit their official delegation list to the Conference secretariat as soon as possible. Registration forms and instructions are available on the OHCHR Web site at: <http://www.unhchr.ch/html/racism/index.htm>. As the pre-registration deadline of 15 July has expired, the completed forms should be submitted, before 24 August 2001, to:

Area Coordinator: Registration and Accreditation
World Conference against Racism
P/Bag X152 Pretoria 0001
South Africa
Tel: + 27 12 351 1436
Fax: + 27 12 351 1225
E-mail: wear.logistics1@foreign.gov.za

14. All participants, including those attending special events, are expected to register and should submit their registration forms to the above address. Registration forms

and instructions are available on the OHCHR and Host Government Web sites at: www.unhchr.ch/html/racism/index.htm and www.racism.gov.za. Registration forms for the NGO Forum are available from the NGO Forum Web site: www.racism.org.za.

15. All participants are requested to adhere strictly to the deadline dates and are required to submit a duly completed Conference registration form and to attach two (2) passport-size photographs. Each photograph should bear the full name of the participant on the back. Accreditation for spouses will be processed on an ad hoc basis on site in South Africa. Please note that United Nations identification badges for Geneva, New York, Vienna and Nairobi will not be valid for the World Conference.

16. On-site accreditation during the World Conference will take place at Hall 6 of the Durban Exhibition Centre (DEC), adjacent to the ICC. The accreditation office will be open daily from 8.00 until 20.00 daily, from 25 August to 7 September. Participants will be required to complete a Conference registration form, which shall be presented to the accrediting officers of the Conference secretariat. Once accreditation has been approved participants will have photographs taken and their badges produced inside the Hall 6 area. Participants who observe the pre-accreditation deadline may proceed directly to claim their photo-identification participant badge.

3. Media accreditation

17. All media representatives planning to attend the Conference should forward the completed form, together with a letter of assignment, on official letterhead, from their editor or bureau chief to:

Ms. Sonia Lecca
Department of Public Information,
United Nations
Room S-250A
New York, NY 10017
Tel: + 1 212 963 6934
Fax: + 1 212 963 4642

Representatives of the media wishing to be accredited on site should follow the procedure indicated in paragraph 15.

4. Access to venues

18. All participants will be issued with a photo identification badge allowing access to Conference venues. For security reasons, this pass must be visible at all times.

E. Security arrangements

19. The United Nations Security and Safety Service and the Host Government will together be responsible for the security arrangements of all persons while they are within the ICC, which will become United Nations premises for the duration of the Conference.

F. Organization of work

1. Plenary

20. An opening session of the plenary will be held on the morning of Friday, 31 August 2001. The provisional programme includes opening addresses by the President of the Republic of South Africa, the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights as Secretary-General of the World Conference. The opening session will be followed by a plenary to deal with organizational matters.

21. The regular plenary session is provisionally scheduled to start on the evening of Saturday, 1 September, and is expected to continue to hold three sessions a day until the end of the Conference. The Main Committee is provisionally scheduled to begin on the afternoon of 31 August. Conference Services can ensure servicing of up to seven meetings a day. As three of these meetings are proposed to be allocated to the plenary, the other four can be allocated to meetings of the Main Committee and the Drafting Committee. Smaller working groups may also be convened on an ad hoc basis. All these will be held at the ICC. An order of the day will be issued daily during the World Conference giving the timetable of meetings.

(a) High-level segment

22. A high-level segment is proposed for 31 August and 1 September. Up to three round tables may be held, with the participation of heads of State or Government. Further details will be announced soon.

(b) List of speakers

23. The speakers' list for the World Conference was opened on 12 July 2001 in Geneva. For further details contact:

Ms. Sandra Aragon-Parriaux
World Conference against Racism
Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
Tel: + 41 22 917 9129
Fax: + 41 22 917 9056
E-mail: saragon.hchr@unog.ch

(c) Statements in the plenary

24. In accordance with the procedure followed at previous Conferences, the speaking times proposed will be allotted as follows: 7 minutes for dignitaries, 5 minutes for States and 3 minutes for observers. A system of lights installed on the lectern will signal the approach of the end of the speaking time.

2. Documentation

25. Only official documents for the World Conference bearing General Assembly document symbols will be available at the documents distribution centre at the ICC.

G. NGO Forum

26. An NGO Forum associated with the World Conference will take place from 28 August to 1 September at the Kingsmead Cricket Stadium in Durban. Individuals and organizations can participate in the NGO Forum by registering with the Conference secretariat (see para. 13 above). Registration costs are US\$ 100 per individual. Organizations do not have to be accredited to the World Conference in order for their representatives to participate in the NGO Forum.

H. Youth Summit

27. A youth summit will take place on 26 and 27 August 2001 at the Kingsmead Cricket Stadium. The Youth Summit is being organized by the Youth Summit Secretariat and the Youth Task Team (both from South Africa), and the International Youth Committee. More than 200 young adults (under 30 years of age), representing all geographical regions, are expected to participate in the Summit to discuss issues of particular concern to them in the struggle against racism. They will elaborate a Youth Statement and Plan of Action that will be presented at the NGO Forum and the World Conference. Individuals wishing to participate in the Youth Summit must be registered for the NGO Forum. There are no additional costs but a separate registration form is required (see www.racism.org.za). For further information, consult the Web site.

I. Media arrangements and services

28. A Media Centre will be located in Hall 1 of the DEC. The Media Centre will have facilities for print and electronic media and will be accessible to accredited media representatives, NGO representatives and delegates. A press conference room is available in the Coast of Dreams hall in the DEC. The Media Centre can be contacted by telephone at + 27 31 360 12 82.

29. A United Nations Media Liaison Desk will be located at the main entrance to the ICC in front of Hall 2D for all media inquiries; the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) Media Team will be located in Hall 1 of the DEC.
